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THE

NATIONAL LEAGUE

FOR THE

PROTECTION

OF THE

FAMILY

Annual Report for 1902

BOSTON
CHILDREN'S
AID SOCIETY

THE

National League for the Protection of the Family.

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1/1902

REPORT

OF THE

National League for the Protection of the Family

FOR THE

Year Ending December 31, 1902

BOSTON
THE EVERETT PRESS COMPANY, PRINTERS
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1903

Notices.

This Report, as usual, deals only with the chief topics of interest in the last year. Preceding Reports will be found specially useful for a similar reason. Reports for 1890 and most later years, except 1898, can still be supplied to those who desire them. This includes the Report of 1895, "A Review of Fifteen Years," of which some copies are still available. Stamps for postage are always welcome.

The Report of the Hon. Carroll D. Wright, LL.D., Commissioner of Labor, on Marriage and Divorce in the United States and Europe, pp. 1,074, first issued in 1889, is at present out of print. It is hoped that our effort to secure a supplementary investigation to bring that Report down to date will soon receive the approval of Congress. Meanwhile, we can furnish on application copies of a "Summary of those Statistics," which we published on the appearance of the advance sheets of the original Report.

A small tract on "The Pastor and the Home;" a paper on the origin and principles of "The Home Department of the Sunday School;" a report to the National Council of Congregational Churches on "The Family;" and a leaflet on "The Aims, Methods, and Results of Our Work" can still be supplied freely to all applicants. But our other and more important papers are out of print.

Reports of the Commissions on Uniform Legislation can be obtained from their Secretary, Albert E. Henschel, 214 Broadway, New York.

Unsolicited contributions are doubly useful in a society like the League; for they save the time of the Corresponding Secretary for his proper work. An increase of one-third would greatly add to the efficiency of the work.

ASSOCIATE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP is invited from those who cannot give large sums. This is freely granted to all proper persons, both ladies and gentlemen, on payment of *five dollars* for the year. Such persons become members in full for the time. *If you cannot be a larger contributor, will you not send your request for associate membership, with the fee, and thus share in this work for the family?* Every one who has

profited by the work of the League, or who believes in its mission, is urgently requested to aid us by a contribution of money.

The Treasurer, Mr. William G. Benedict, 610 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Mass., will gratefully acknowledge all contributions sent to him.

Correspondence relating to the work of the League should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, the Rev. Samuel W. Dike, LL.D., 113 Hancock Street, Auburndale, Mass. Contributions may also be sent directly to him.

Minutes.

The Twenty-third Annual Meeting of the National League for the Protection of the Family met at the Diocesan House, Boston, on Joy Street, at 2 P.M., Jan. 21, 1903. The meeting was organized by the choice of Frank Gaylord Cook, Esq., to act as President *pro tem.* Prayer was offered by the Recording Secretary. The report of the Treasurer, Mr. William G. Benedict, was presented and referred to Mr. W. B. Herrick as auditor.

Dr. S. W. Dike read his annual report as Corresponding Secretary. It was voted that it be accepted and printed and distributed at the discretion of Dr. Dike.

The name of Mr. John D. R. Lamson, Toledo, Ohio, was proposed for membership and he was elected.

The following officers were elected: —

President, Hon. Nathaniel Shipman, LL.D.

Vice-Presidents, Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D.D., LL.D., Hon. Seth Low, LL.D., President George Harris, D.D., LL.D.

Corresponding Secretary, Rev. S. W. Dike, LL.D.

Recording Secretary, Rev. C. H. Spalding, D.D.

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Voted to adjourn.

C. H. SPALDING,

Recording Secretary.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 21, 1903.

Report of Corresponding Secretary.

The year 1902 has proved one of quiet study of the problems of the Family rather than of the prominent treatment which characterized the year before. The triennial session of the Protestant Episcopal Church in San Francisco in the autumn of 1901 and the meetings of other national religious bodies brought the divorce question to the front in a large part of that year. But in 1902 there have been no such occasions for public discussion.

This year, however, the students in several of our universities seem to have taken unusual interest in the subject of divorce, chiefly in regard to uniform legislation for the entire country. This subject has been specially treated in the universities of Brown, Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Tennessee, and Macon, Ga. In most of these, public debates or prize essays were the form of interest, and in all of them appeal was made to the League for aid in preparation. Inquiries were also made by professors and students in other institutions, and discussions may have been held in some beyond our knowledge. Our Annual Reports continue to go into the libraries of these institutions and into the libraries of many cities and some towns in the country.

The New York *American* published daily, in October and November, some forty articles on Divorce, by as many writers. These set forth a variety of opinions, but contributed very little to the discussion that was new. The chief value of the articles probably was in the opportunity given to the readers of the Hearst syndicate of newspapers to read opinions they would not get in any other way, and of seeing how serious-minded people looked at this question of divorce.

The new editions of some of the leading encyclopedias now appearing will show something of the growth of interest in various problems of the Family since their previous editions appeared twenty or thirty years ago. One of these articles was written by your Secretary.

RECENT STATISTICS.

It will be remembered that last year the League began a movement to secure such a supplementary investigation and report as will bring the Report on Marriage and Divorce which was made in 1889 by the Hon. Carroll D. Wright, LL.D., Commissioner of Labor at Washington, from the year 1886, the last covered by that report, down to

date. The measure was adopted by the Senate but not by the House. The only objection, it is said, that was made to the proposal came from certain members of the House Committee who desired to have the work done by the Census Office, now a permanent institution, and which has established certain statistical areas from which it collects vital statistics annually. But as divorce statistics are judicial statistics and not vital statistics, and are to be had in most States only from the records of the courts, it is apparent that the Census Office has no special facilities for their collection in its "statistical areas," much less for the entire country. But still more, the purposes of scientific comparisons would seem to require that the same agency and methods be used in the supplementary investigation that were employed in the original one. It is now understood that the Census Office has recently given assurance that it will aid us in every practicable way in our effort to secure the needed order from Congress for having the work done, and that by the Department of Labor as before. We have, therefore, hope that the necessary appropriation will be made soon, probably this winter. Senator Hoar has already introduced a provision for it.

The original Report on Marriage and Divorce is now out of print, while the demand for it continues, though at least three large editions have been printed. It will be necessary, therefore, to incorporate many of the essentials of this report in the new report, both for information and for the objects of comparative study. The new report is needed to show the many changes that have been made since the issue of the first report in the marriage and divorce laws of this country and in some foreign countries, and their effects. For instance, the effect on migratory divorces of a longer term of residence before a divorce can be obtained, which is now required in California, Georgia, North Dakota, South Dakota, and all the Territories, can be seen only in the light of the proposed statistics. The increase or decrease of divorces obtained by migration to other States than the one of real residence, on which the last report threw the first clear light we had, should be further understood. And more than all, the general and specific trend of the divorce movement in this country as a whole needs to be seen in the light of the fullest and latest accessible information. No subject, in the judgment of those who look at things either from the point of view of the sociologist or the patriotic citizen, can be more important than a knowledge of the essential facts concerning the Family, and statistics of marriages, births, and divorces are the fundamental data for all scientific study of this class of subjects.

We urge our readers to impress these considerations upon their members of Congress by personal letters to them.

STATE STATISTICS.

Meanwhile the need of regular statistical reports by each State of the number of births, marriages, and divorces, as well as other kinds of vital statistics, should be pressed by the citizens of the several States. I believe only ten States collect annually statistics of divorce, and one of these — Maine — does not publish them. A few more collect but do not publish statistics of marriage. A paper was read on this subject before the International Statistical Association some years ago that met the approval of the members of the Association. The Hon. Carroll D. Wright called attention in his Report of 1889 on the subject to the extreme neglect shown in some States of this kind of statistical information, which most European countries, as well as Australia and Japan, now furnish. We suggest that those interested should send for a copy of the report of Michigan on vital statistics and see the value that even the simplest collection of data can have under the care of a skilful statistician. We are glad to say that New Hampshire has collected its statistics of divorce from 1858 down to the present, and that those of the earlier years will be made public during the present year. Certainly no subject is more important to the student of social or political conditions than an accurate knowledge of the various leading incidents of its family life.

LEGISLATION OF THE YEAR.

As comparatively few State Legislatures held sessions in the year 1902, we have very little to report under this head. The strong movement for reform in the divorce laws of Rhode Island succeeded only in part. The term of residence of the plaintiff in divorce suits before he can sue in that State for a divorce was increased from one to two years, and a divorce is not valid until six months after it is granted by the courts. Some other changes of less significance were also made in the statutes on the subject.

New York has just created a law making the advertising of divorce business a misdemeanor. California, Illinois, Minnesota, and perhaps one or two more States have taken this step within a few years. It would probably do good if still others should cut off this opportunity for easy abuse.

SOME LEGISLATION OF THE LAST DOZEN YEARS.

Arkansas, North Dakota, and other States have repealed the clause in their statutes allowing divorce for insanity, which is now retained in only two States. California, North Dakota, South Dakota, Georgia, Washington, and all the Territories have raised the term of residence

before a divorce can be granted from three and six months to one year. California has forbidden the remarriage of divorced persons for one year after the decree of divorce. It defined marriage by statute and made its formal celebration obligatory. It also forbade the advertising of the procuring of divorces. Colorado has restated and improved its divorce law. Greater care is taken in the personal service of libels on persons out of the State, and fifty days' time is required for it. Details of service by publication must be given under oath, and the court must make careful examination of the plaintiff and other witnesses to determine what steps were actually taken. Default for non-appearance of the defendant is not allowed; and in case of non-appearance the court must appoint an attorney to defend, who shall cross-examine the witnesses. A jury must try the case, and the plaintiff must be personally present. All marriage licenses in case of a divorced party must state the facts when, where, and on what grounds the divorce was granted. Failure to support a wife is made a misdemeanor. Delaware enacted the important law forbidding its courts to entertain a suit for divorce for any cause arising prior to the residence of the petitioner or defendant in this State which was not a ground for divorce in the State where the cause arose. This is now recommended by the Commissions on Uniform Legislation for adoption in all the States. The District of Columbia has a new divorce law restricting divorce to adultery alone. Illinois forbids the advertising of divorce business, as California, Minnesota, New York, and Washington have also done. Michigan adopted the suggestion of the Commissions on Uniformity regulating domicile before divorce. California, North Dakota, Oregon, Wisconsin, and probably two or three more States have prohibited the remarriage of divorced persons for various periods of time. Pennsylvania has modified and New Jersey and Wisconsin have introduced new systems of marriage license laws to prevent the coming of parties from outside the State to be married, and for the better regulation of the marriage of their own citizens. Several States, in the far West especially, have made laws requiring that certificates of ordination or license to preach be presented to the court, and that then licenses to celebrate marriage be issued. New York has regulated her so-called common-law marriages so as to require that they be made in the form of a written contract, duly signed, witnessed, and subscribed with date and place in the same manner as in case of conveyance of real estate, and the contract must be filed in the office of the town or city clerk within six months. The "omnibus" clauses, which gave general discretion to the courts in granting divorces for other than the specified causes of the statutes, have disappeared from the laws of Connecticut, Maine, and most of the other

States which had them. Vermont made provision for legal separation without divorce in place of an absolute divorce. At least twenty States have this provision, but it seems to be rarely used. A good many States have made better regulations regarding the age of consent and applications for marriage licenses.

There has been very little legislation in the direction of laxity. Florida is the only State that has added insanity as a ground for divorce, and Vermont the only one that has repealed its restriction on the remarriage of divorced persons, which was for two years. Two or three States have added the use of chloral, opium, and other drugs to their statutory grounds for divorce. With these exceptions the movement of legislation is wholly in the right direction. The difficulty always is to get it in motion. It has been the work of the League to help create, guide, and inform the public opinion that has led to this legislation.

UNIFORM LEGISLATION.

No progress has been made in respect to uniform marriage and divorce legislation by the State Commissions on Uniformity. This is in part due to the discovery of objections to some of the points in the proposed Divorce Bill. The years of actual experiment in drafting a bill that could be adopted by all the States have revealed difficulties that were unforeseen even after much study and consultation, and so the whole subject has gone over to the next annual conference of the Commissions on Uniformity.

Uniformity through amendment of the Constitution of the United States is still urged by some. But most of the advocates of this plan in former years have come to see the serious difficulties in the way of its adoption, or of its success if it could be adopted. These difficulties were pointed out many years ago in our Annual Reports and elsewhere. But there is one simple, practical difficulty which advocates of a constitutional amendment for any object need to consider. This is the unwillingness of a considerable portion of the country to entertain the proposal of any transfer of power from the States to the general government. It is said that the South is almost as solid in opposition to any such invasion of the present rights of the States as it was before the Civil War. If this be so, then we may be sure that the twelve States necessary to defeat a constitutional amendment transferring jurisdiction over marriage, divorce, or polygamy will be readily found. To look for the remedy of domestic evils of this sort through a constitutional amendment is, at present certainly, a waste of effort.

The success of the plan of State coöperation for uniform laws, in spite of the meager attention and parsimonious provision made to it,

and certain growing needs for uniformity in other subjects, should direct thought to the need of making better pecuniary provision for these State Commissions, now thirty-four in number. Twenty-one States have enacted the uniform law relating to negotiable instruments, and some of the other recommendations of the Commissions have been enacted by a less number of States. And now the increasingly important subject of a uniform law relating to corporations is being considered. The friends of a uniform marriage and divorce law may well hope that this important movement toward uniformity in other matters will carry along with it their own specific subjects.

But let us remember that uniformity of marriage and divorce laws, while greatly needed, can touch but a small part of the divorces granted in the United States, and that under the restrictions imposed by the increase of the term of residence and other regulations this class of divorces is growing less every year. It is the condition of our own people, those living in our own State, county, and town, who are obtaining divorces at home that should mostly concern us. After all that may be said in extenuation of divorce, it should be clear to every right-minded person that frequent resort to the courts for relief from irksome domestic ties is a source of great mischief, and is a blot on our civilization.

DESERTED WIVES.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Report of the Board of Overseers of the Poor of the City of Boston, like many of its preceding reports, speaks at some length of "the deplorably large number of deserted wives whom, with their families, the city is helping in their homes. We sometimes wonder," the report says, "if the laws of this State in the matter of compelling support by the husband, and in punishing him for neglecting to support his family, are sufficiently stringent. Statistics are given relating to 153 families. In each instance the wife was at some time deserted by the husband. In a few instances periodical desertions appear to have taken place." Only 37 per cent were classed as unskilled workmen. "In five of the 153 families there were no children; the remaining 148 show a total of 507 children, or an average of less than 4 per family."

Another much fuller statement is found in a special report on "Deserted Wives and Deserting Husbands," a study of 234 families, based on the experience of the District Committees and agents of the Associated Charities of Boston, by Zilpha D. Smith, General Secretary: "About one in ten of the new families brought to our notice is that of a deserted wife. Most of these are burdened with young children. The men are of all nationalities and of varied occupations, some

of them well paid; and many leave home while earning. Repeated desertions are common, occurring often when a child is to be born. While the wife is sometimes at fault, the husband is usually the chief sinner, — a self-indulgent man, drinking or worse." One year it was found that "out of 157 deserted wives, 100 were left alone to support one child or more under fourteen, while out of 183 widows only 90 were left in a similar condition." "Out of 187 cases in which the number of desertions was known, 107 had deserted but once; 34 had deserted twice; 9 three times; 21 'several times'; 9 'many times'; 1 four times; 3 five times; 1 six times; and 2 seven times. The birth of a child was the immediate occasion of desertion with 44, or one in every five of all the cases. And of these 44, twenty-five have deserted more than once; most of them have deserted from three to seven times. One-half were skilled workmen. Sixty per cent were employed when they deserted, and over 80 per cent could read and write."

"A self-indulgent habit" is held to lie at the bottom of most desertions, and the means of prevention lies in education, "not only by church and school, but in all social relations." "In only 27 cases out of a total of 234 is the chief cause of desertion attributed to the wife alone. In 19 both husband and wife are considered equally responsible. This leaves 160 in which the chief cause lies with the husband, and in only 11 of these does the cause designated suggest other than moral delinquency. In 79 cases the man's intemperance was given as the chief cause; in 26, the man's licentiousness; in 18, other moral defects; in 16, disregard of family ties; and in 10, his roving disposition." It should be added that deserted wives and children were found to be much younger than the widows and their children who were under the care of the Associated Charities.

When we consider that Boston is probably one of the best cities of its size in respect to numbers of dependent persons, and that here one-tenth of all the cases and more than that proportion of all the money and effort spent in charitable relief work is used upon deserted families alone, we can see how much need there is of more attention to the home on the part of all interested in preventive work.

The system of county homes for dependent children which some States have needs to be guarded with great care lest it encourage the increase of this class of children. Parents will carelessly provide for their children in the confidence that if the burden becomes too great the State or private institutions will step in for their relief. Then the artificial training of an institution for children is less adapted to the work of fitting them for actual life than the home and social influences about it. This led some years ago, in Massachusetts, to the

substitution of the placing of poor children in families for the old plan of a State's almshouse.

THE HOME IN EDUCATION.

The relation of the home and the school to each other is a subject of growing importance. What the school can and should do for the home was perhaps the form in which the subject first came to the front in educational circles. The fact that apparently the school is the only educational agency that is reaching the home has long tended to keep attention directed to this work of the school for the home. But it was then found that the home is often of itself a drag upon the work of the school, so attention was directed to the remedy for this evil. But this was largely in the attempt to educate the younger half of the population in the schools, and trust to the supplanting of the older and less educated part of the people by a new and better educated generation; or else in the attempt to introduce training in the schools in the domestic arts themselves. Much good is being done in this way. The bringing of public libraries into the closest touch with the homes of the people is another source of strength to the home. Studies at home by correspondence are helping the homes of some.

But we are beginning to take those wider views of education which lead us to see that education is the result of a combination of all the activities of life; that in the last analysis, living — seeing, thinking, feeling, acting — is after all the real education; that the school is almost a mere artificial institution for the training of the young to live, and some will go so far as to say that the nearer the school comes to reproducing actual life the better is its educational work. At any rate, we now see that the school is only a part of the agencies of education, and that men and women are being educated wherever they are acquiring the power and habits of observation, reflection, emotion, and action. And after all, where is more of this work done than in the home and the vocation? Is it not in these two classes of activities that the mental and physical powers of the people are most developed and trained?

Here, then, in this widening sense of the variety and complex relations of the educational forces of life, we find an inevitable tendency to study of the home as itself a positive factor in the educational process. The home is a laboratory where the suggestions of the classroom are worked out. More than this is true. The home has its own educational work. The intellect, the feelings, and the will are in constant exercise in the many hours which the children and parents spend there together. There is going on constantly the training of the child

to habits of accurate observation, to careful comparison, to correct judgments, as well as to the exercise of right feelings and to the practice of right conduct. The work of the teacher and of the parent are essentially alike. The work of the one is dependent on that of the other. Neither can fully succeed without the other. The coöperation of the two reinforces each.

Your Secretary is urging these considerations in educational circles and notes a growth in the recognition of their truth among educators and a growing response to them among the people. The local educational associations which are being formed to study the needs of the public schools are giving more attention to the home and its place in the general work of education. But this line of work is only just begun to be pursued. The subject needs to be discussed in the great sources of educational influence by those who can treat it from the sociological as well as the pedagogical point of view. For it is not until we see the place the home holds in the structure of human society — that it is the all-pervasive cell of the social order which goes to make up every part of the whole, whether religious, educational, industrial, or political — that we are in a position to see the claims the home has on the attention of the educator. Reverence, the fundamental quality of religion; industry for the sake of others, the basal economic virtue; respect for authority, the foundation of good government, are preëminently virtues of the home. If they do not exist there in reasonable degree the chances are that they will remain dormant or be partially or wrongly developed.

Generally it may be said that the tone of the periodical press on the subject is in a healthy condition, only it is not so constantly and aggressively manifested as it should be. The educational institutions have recognized the value of a study of the home and its various incidents in their curricula, and in this way are training up the educated young men and women of the future for usefulness on this great subject. And the place the home, as in some sense the social cell, will hold in nearly all departments of social science in the early future is growing more and more apparent.

But there is great need of more work that will reach the people generally. The home should be more frequently the topic of sermons, conferences, and clubs. It is always interesting, and frequently absorbingly so. Christian interest in the Sunday school, the Young People's Societies, and other devices for training the young in religious things should not be allowed to obscure the work which the home itself should do and not shift on other institutions to the loss of its own vigor. The Home Department of the Sunday school, which was devised by your Secretary to show what can be done with the home as

itself a centre of religious instruction, has won the enthusiastic support of Sunday-school workers in this and other countries. It will in time be followed by other plans for the use of the home itself.

SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION.

It is to be hoped that a suggestion the Secretary of the League has made to the Directors of the new Carnegie Institution at Washington may some time be adopted. This is that an appropriation be made to some suitable persons who shall undertake such fundamental scientific studies of the home and of the secondary social group — that is, of the structure and functions of all forms of communal association, whether found in church, school, corporation, political, or other social organization — as shall give scientific students and practical workers in social improvement some such knowledge of these two fundamental types of the social order as biologists now are getting of cell and tissue.

Something of this work has been done, but chiefly in the historical field. The early forms of communal life are now pretty well understood. But nothing has been done to collect, compare, and classify the greatly increasing variety of social groups of the secondary class and discover their peculiar laws of structure and working except in certain fields and in isolation from each other. For example, we know a good deal about the municipal organization. We know something, too, about ecclesiastical organizations of similar type. We know something about corporations in business and in law. But who can give an intelligent account of the points of resemblance or difference between the municipality and the church, or the church and a business corporation? Yet men are constantly dealing with the two.

PUBLIC OPINION.

One serious effect of the increase of divorces in some parts of the country should receive careful attention. It is the deadening of the public conscience through familiarity with the divorce evil. It will be remembered that our Report last year stated that 4,699 divorces were granted in Indiana, or one to every 5.7 marriages celebrated in the same time. Our Reports were sent into that State in considerable numbers, and yet I recall but a single letter in return commenting upon the evil. I am also told that in California the large number of divorces there is defended in what is called good society, and that the efforts of the few who see the evil effects of the practice get but little encouragement from people at large. These, it is to be feared, are only typical cases. If so, it shows a lamentable neglect on the part of Christian people to speak openly and frequently of an evil that is silently working a great change in the most fundamental of all social institutions.

THE HOME AND THE ECONOMIC QUESTION.

Modern sociology has greatly strengthened, through historical study, the position which Sir James Mackintosh took nearly a hundred years ago, when he said in his "Law of Nature and Nations:" "Almost all the relative duties of human life will be found, more immediately or more remotely, to arise out of the two great institutions of property and marriage; they constitute, preserve, and improve society; upon their gradual improvement depends the progressive civilization of mankind; on them rests the whole order of civil life." For the history of the development of human society has shown that the institution of property has grown up in closest relations with that of the family, and where property has pushed on to the neglect of the family society has been overwhelmed with disaster.

The student of economics notes that, while the very word "economics" makes it the science of the household, the home has not until lately had any place in the treatises of the modern science that is at all worthy of the subject. But now the domestic and social interests are beginning to be felt as being of the most fundamental importance, both to the capitalist and the laborer. The laborer has demanded first a living wage, and now his insistence on a broad, full meaning to the word "living" is beginning to be appreciated. The rights of every man to such conditions as shall enable him to have a suitable home are being recognized.

Then business men are beginning to see that an improved home means much to business. It means not only a better, more intelligent, more constant, more trustworthy employee every way, but it means a larger demand for goods, more sales, and surer pay. The economic value of an increase in the number, quality, and ambitions of the great mass of common people is going to be understood better by business men than it has been. Their tens of millions can be developed in their purchasing power to an extent far beyond that of the few hundreds of thousands of the very rich. And it is the home that will be the chief centre of all this economic and social ambition of the people.

Then business men should see more clearly than they do that bad homes are fostering the evil conditions which they lament. Unintelligent workmen, wasteful employees, untrustworthy service, are often due more to bad homes than to anything else. Ignorance, intemperance, licentiousness, lying, cheating, laziness, crime, in short the whole brood of ills that torment employers, fill almshouses, saloons, and prisons, are nourished in bad homes. A good home is the best single protection against any and all of these. It is the best soil in which to root the instructions of the church and the school.

Educators see this. Perhaps the need of more attention to the

home is one of the best features of the educational movements of the last ten years, in public-school affairs certainly. The need of doing something for the home is leading to the introduction of Domestic Science in some of our better school systems. And the feeling is apparently growing, too, that we must not be content with doing something for the home; for there is much that cannot be done for the the home. The home has functions of its own, and these must be called into exercise or the home loses its own natural power as surely as an arm that is not exercised does. The home has been intellectually and spiritually pauperized by the well-intentioned aim of the school and the church to do something for the home, with small attention to awakening the power of self-help within the home itself.

But educators are wakening to the condition, and the church is beginning to see that it has spent too much time relatively on its various devices for doing work in societies and too little on planning to get the home at its own work. It is time that business men should see the value of the home to them and go about its improvement. Our religious publishing societies are almost barren of good literature relating to the family and the home. One hardly knows where to look for suitable tracts or papers on Marriage, Chastity, Divorce, Home Training of Children, and the like, to which we can refer ministers and others. Here is an opportunity for men and women of means to give money where it is greatly needed.

EXPENSES AND RECEIPTS.

The expenses of the year have been kept at the lowest possible figure and amount to $2,122.05. The receipts were $2,112.82, leaving a deficiency of $9.23, which has been cancelled by the contribution of one of the officers of the League.

Respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL W. DIKE,
Corresponding Secretary.

Treasurer's Report.

WM. G. BENEDICT, *Treasurer.*

In account with the National League for the Protection of the Family.

DR.		CR.	
Dec. 31, 1902.		Dec. 31, 1902.	
To Receipts for Expenses as per details in Cash Book	$2,122 05	By Disbursements for the year 1902, as per Cash Book:	
		General Expenses,—	
		Travelling . . .	$116 58
		Postage	44.50
		Stationery . . .	9 72
		Telegrams, etc.	4 40
		Printing	96 85
		Rent	50 00
			$322 05
		Salary of Secretary, Rev. S. W. Dike, LL.D.	1,800 00
	$2,122 05		$2,122 05
		Leaving the indebtedness of the League, still .	$387 63

January 21, 1903. I have this day examined the above account covering the year 1902, with the vouchers therefor, and I find the same correct.

WILLIAM B. HERRICK, *Auditor.*

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Jan. 1.	Hon. Seth Low, LL.D., New York	$50 00	
2.	Rev. W. H. Moore, Hartford, Conn.	2 00	
14.	Miss M. Josephine Allen, Boston	5 00	
16.	Hon. Nathaniel Shipman, LL.D., Hartford, Conn.	25 00	
16.	Col. Jacob L. Greene, Hartford, Conn.	35 00	
16.	Pres. William J. Tucker, D.D., LL.D., Hanover, N.H.	10 00	
17.	John D. R. Lamson, Toledo, Ohio	10 00	
22.	Frank Gaylord Cook, Cambridge	2 00	
	Received in January		$139 00
Feb. 1.	Rev. W. Spooner Smith, Worcester	$10 00	
6.	Hon. William E. Dodge, New York	100 00	
7.	James C. Braman, Auburndale	10 00	
7.	Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D.D., LL.D., Boston	25 00	
8.	Rev. Cornelius H. Patton, D.D., St. Louis, Mo.	5 00	
14.	Hon. Moses Giddings, Bangor, Me.	5 00	
14.	Rev. Thomas W. Thompson, Worcester	5 00	
15.	Alfred T. White, Brooklyn, N. Y.	10 00	
17.	Mrs. George H. Corliss, Providence, R. I.	10 00	
20.	Grace Church, Providence, R. I.	25 00	
20.	Rt. Rev. W. H. Hare, D.D., Sioux Falls, S. D.	5 00	
21.	Pres. Edward M. Gallaudet, LL.D., Washington, D. C.	10 00	
21.	Rt. Rev. A. C. A. Hall, D.D., Burlington, Vt.	5 00	
21.	Rev. George B. Johnson, Burlington, Vt.	5 00	
22.	St. James Church, New York	25 00	
22.	Robert C. Ogden, New York	25 00	
24.	L. H. W., Boston	10 00	
26.	Mrs. Charlotte F. Blackman, Waterbury, Conn.	10 00	
27.	Rev. Walker Gwynne, Summit, N. J.	2 00	
	Received in February		$302 00
Mar. 3.	George Burnham, Sr., Philadelphia	$25 00	
3.	Morris K. Jesup, New York	10 00	
4.	Alfred Metcalf, Providence, R. I.	5 00	
5.	Rt. Rev. Daniel S. Tuttle, D.D., St. Louis, Mo.	5 00	
7.	Old South Church, Boston	25 00	
7.	Prof. W. E. Huntington, Ph.D., Newton Centre	5 00	
8.	Rev. A. M. Merwin, Pasadena, Cal.	3 00	
10.	Rev. Wm. S. Hubbell, D.D., Plainfield, N. J.	10 00	
10.	Charles E. Ranlett, Auburndale	5 00	
12.	Rev. Charles F. Dole, Jamaica Plain	5 00	
14.	All Saints' Church, Worcester	10 00	
15.	Rt. Rev. Wm. Crosswell Doane, D.D., LL.D., Albany	5 00	
15.	Very Rev. Eugene A. Hoffman, D.D., LL.D., New York	25 00	
15.	Miss Erasta J. Pierce, East Windsor	5 00	
18.	A. F. Weber, Albany, N. Y.	3 00	
19.	St. Paul's Church, New Haven, Conn.	5 00	
19.	W. J. Breed, Cincinnati, O.	5 00	
20.	Ralph S. Kent, Ithaca, N. Y.	1 10	
24.	Mrs. Samuel Colt, Hartford, Conn.	40 00	
24.	Ernest R. Ackerman, New York	5 00	
	Received in March		$202 10

Apr. 4.	Robert H. Talley, Richmond, Va.	$5 00	
5.	Rev. F. N. Peloubet, D.D., Auburndale	10 00	
5.	Prof. E. Y. Hincks, D.D., Andover	5 00	
5.	Rev. W. H. Cobb, D.D., Newton Centre	5 00	
7.	Prof. Henry W. Farnham, R. P. D., New Haven, Conn.	25 00	
7.	Hon. Arthur T. Lyman, Boston	5 00	
9.	George B. Knapp, Auburndale	10 00	
17.	Charles Morris Smith, Providence, R. I.	10 00	
17.	Rathbone Gardner, Providence, R.I.	5 00	
17.	William Gammell, Providence, R. I.	5 00	
18.	Stuart Wood, Philadelphia	10 00	
24.	Christ Church, Hartford, Conn.	10 00	
24.	Rev. Arthur Lawrence, D.D., Stockbridge	25 00	
24.	Robert H. Gardiner, Chestnut Hill	5 00	
	Received in April		$135 00
May 3.	Rev. W. P. Alcott, Boxford	$2 00	
5.	Rev. S. W. Dana, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.	5 00	
6.	W. P. Henzey, Philadelphia, Pa.	25 00	
8.	Rev. G. L. Demarest, D.D., Manchester, N. H.	5 00	
9.	Woman's Missionary Society, St. Ann's Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5 00	
9.	First Congregational Church, Pawtucket, R. I.	25 00	
14.	Mrs. R. H. Dana, Cambridge	5 00	
17.	Hon. Samuel B. Capen, LL.D., Boston	10 00	
21.	Rev. William Prall, D.D., Albany, N. Y.	5 00	
27.	South Evangelical Church, Roxbury	3 22	
29.	Ginn and Company, Boston	10 00	
31.	Rt. Rev. Alexander Mackay-Smith, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.	15 00	
	Received in May		$115 22
June 7.	Hon. James Tillinghast, Providence, R. I.	$10 00	
9.	Hon. James Schouler, LL.D., Boston	5 00	
24.	Mrs. William E. Dodge, Sr., New York	10 00	
24.	Rev. D. Stuart Dodge, New York	20 00	
30.	George Ripley, Andover	10 00	
	Received in June		$55 00
July 2.	Mrs. C. P. Turner, Philadelphia, Pa.	$25 00	
4.	St. Ann's Church, Lowell	25 00	
7.	Rev. J. B. Clark, D.D., New York	5 00	
12.	Herbert A. Wilder, Newton	10 00	
14.	Rt. Rev. Leighton Coleman, D.D., LL.D., Wilmington, Del.	3 00	
21.	William B. Taylor, Lynn	5 00	
22.	Rev. Daniel Merriman, D.D., Worcester	50 00	
26.	Dr. Lucien Howe, Buffalo, N. Y.	5 00	
28.	St. John's Church, Stamford, Conn.	20 25	
	Received in July		$148 25
Aug. 7.	Rev. Herbert Lathe, Manitou, Col.	$5 00	
13.	Prof. Charles R. Henderson, D.D., Chicago, Ill.	1 00	
	Received in August		$6 00

Oct. 1.	Mrs. Wallace H. Camp, Waterbury, Conn.	$50 00	
2.	Rev. John G. Davenport, D.D., Waterbury, Conn.	10 00	
2.	St. John's Church, Waterbury, Conn.	10 00	
2.	Mrs. Charlotte F. Blackman, Waterbury, Conn.	10 00	
2.	Miss Susan Bronson, Waterbury, Conn.	5 00	
2.	Mrs. Israel Holmes, Waterbury, Conn.	5 00	
2.	Hon. Frederick J. Kingsbury, LL.D., Waterbury, Conn.	25 00	
3.	Mrs. John S. Mitchell, Waterbury, Conn.	50 00	
5.	Mrs. Gilman C. Hill, Waterbury, Conn.	5 00	
6.	St. Stephen's Church, Pittsfield	10 00	
6.	"A Friend," Pittsfield	2 00	
7.	Charles Plunkett, Adams	4 00	
7.	Pres. Henry Hopkins, D.D., LL.D., Williamstown	5 00	
10.	Rev. J. H. Denison, D.D., Williamstown	10 00	
18.	"A Vermont Lady"	50 00	
18.	Arthur Reed Kimball, Waterbury, Conn.	5 00	
25.	Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford, Conn.	25 00	
	Received in October		$281 00
Nov. 4.	Rev. Anson Phelps Stokes, Jr., New Haven, Conn.	$5 00	
6.	Mrs. A. S. Chase, Waterbury, Conn.	25 00	
7.	"J. H. W.," New York	20 00	
13.	Hon. Edward L. Pickard, Auburndale	20 00	
14.	St. Bartholomew's Church, New York	100 00	
17.	Mrs. John S. Brigham, Worcester	10 00	
20.	George B. Burrall, Lakeville, Conn.	5 00	
20.	Mrs. F. H. Churchill, New Britain, Conn.	5 00	
20.	Rev. James W. Cooper, D.D., New Britain, Conn.	5 00	
21.	Rev. A. W. Hazen, D.D., Middletown, Conn.	5 00	
21.	Prof. William North Rice, Middletown, Conn.	5 00	
21.	Rev. John P. Taylor, D.D., Andover	5 00	
21.	Rev. Cornelius H. Patton, D.D., St. Louis, Mo.	10 00	
24.	Rev. Llewellyn Pratt, D.D., Norwich, Conn.	10 00	
25.	Rev. Horace Dutton, Auburndale	5 00	
26.	Rev. Newton M. Hall's S. S. Class, Springfield	5 00	
27.	Crombie Street Sunday School, Salem	5 00	
29.	Rev. Francis Goodwin, Hartford, Conn.	20 00	
	Received in November		$265 00
Dec. 1.	Joseph Lee, Brookline	$10 00	
2.	Hon. William P. Ellison, Newton	10 00	
2.	Edward D. Bassett, Providence, R. I.	10 00	
2.	Rev. E. E. Strong, D.D., Auburndale	3 00	
2.	Rev. Austin B. Bassett, D.D., Ware	5 00	
2.	Hon. Simeon E. Baldwin, LL.D., New Haven, Conn.	50 00	
6.	Rufus B. Fowler, Worcester	5 00	
6.	Prof. Francis G. Peabody, D.D., Cambridge	5 00	
6.	William B. Herrick, Auburndale	10 00	
6.	George Burnham, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.	25 00	
6.	Hon. Francis Lynde Stetson, LL.D., New York	30 00	
8.	South Congregational Church, Springfield	25 00	
8.	W. W. Lockwood, New York	5 00	
10.	J. Howard Nichols, Newton	5 00	

Dec. 10.	Prof. W. O. Atwater, Ph.D., Middletown, Conn.	$5 00
10.	Rev. F. B. Allen, Boston	5 00
10.	Miss M. Josephine Allen, Boston	5 00
12.	Pres. George Harris, D.D., LL.D., Amherst	15 00
12.	Rt. Rev. William N. McVickar, D.D., Providence, R. I.	10 00
12.	Hon. Lyman D. Brewster, Danbury, Conn.	5 00
12.	Rev. William H. Davis, D.D., Newton	5 00
14.	Church Collection, Randolph, Vt.	7 25
14.	William G. Benedict, Boston	10 00
18.	Rev. A. B. Hunter, Raleigh, N. C.	5 00
18.	A. C. Tenney, Chelsea	1 00
18.	Rev. James W. Bixler, New London, Conn.	5 00
20.	Rev. Morgan Dix, D.D., LL.D., New York	25 00
22.	"A Member," Eliot Church, Newton	5 00
26.	"A Friend," Newtonville	3 00
27.	Rev. S. S. Matthews, Danielson, Conn.	5 00
29.	Rt. Rev. Chauncey B. Brewster, D.D., Hartford, Conn.	5 00
29.	St. Stephen's Church, Providence, R. I.	10 00
31.	Hon. Robert D. Benedict, New York	5 00
31.	E. P. Dutton, New York	10 00
31.	St. John's Church, Providence, R. I.	25 00
31.	E. O. Fisk, Boston	5 00
31.	Rev. George M. Adams, D.D., Auburndale	5 00
31.	Union Congregational Church, Providence, R. I.	10 00
31.	Trinity Church, Boston	25 00
31.	"A Donor," Cambridge	20 00
31.	First Congregational Church, Meriden, Conn.	25 00
31.	Miss Edith Woolsey, New Haven, Conn.	5 00
31.	An Officer of the League	9 23
	Received in December	$473.48

The League and Its Work.

The League was organized in 1881 by ex-President Woolsey of Yale and others of high standing, who were convinced that the time had come for some combined effort to counteract the evils that threaten the integrity and efficiency of the Family.

It stands for catholic, scientific, and practical methods in the protection of the Family and its development in a wholesome social order. Marriage, Divorce, Polygamy, Chastity, etc., are regarded as parts of the one inclusive problem of the Family. And the Family and its growth into the Home, it is held, should be the constant concern of religion, education, industry, and patriotism. The relative neglect of the Family in the past and the place it now holds in all departments of social science, and in practical philosophy, compel an increasing attention to it. The Family is now widely acknowledged to be one of the foremost, if not the most important, of all social problems, and one vital to many interests. "More and more," says Prof. F. G. Peabody, of Harvard University, "we have come to see within these last few years that the problem of the Family is the *crux* of modern civilization."

Practical results are already apparent. The Government Report on Marriage and Divorce, which the League proposed and secured, prepared the way for the thirty-four State Commissions on Uniform Legislation on these and other subjects. Meanwhile State legislation has been kept moving in the right direction. Better systems of marriage license and regulation, the removal of "omnibus" and insanity clauses for divorce, the prohibition of divorce advertising, the increase of the term of residence before divorce is permitted in several States and all the Territories, restrictions upon the remarriage of the divorced in some, and carefully planned bills to restrict migratory and fraudulent or collusive divorces, now bear witness in many States to the practical efficiency of the movement.

The educational work of the League behind these gains is still more significant. Several higher educational institutions have been visited every year, and touch is kept with each through correspondence

with teachers and students. Lectures and sometimes courses of lectures are given in these on the Family and kindred problems. Libraries are supplied with our Reports and other papers. Twenty years ago these subjects were rarely touched in any educational institution. Now they are studied generally, and sometimes in extended courses.

Reviews and the periodical press generally have been used by the Secretary and others in the treatment of the Family and allied social problems. Our Annual Reports often contain important discussions, as well as a general survey of the field. Correspondence is a means of giving information and incentives to legislators, specialists, teachers, and others who seek our aid, it being our aim to do all we can through others. Churches and pastors have profited by our work. The Home Department of the Sunday school, an increasing interest in the religious work of the home, greater attention to the home in sermons, pastoral care, and church work, and a growing sense of its value as the best laboratory of the church, and the source of its supplies of men and money, may be cited in evidence.

A small constituency of exceptional intelligence has hitherto been the chief support of this fundamental and constructive work. We now ask for an increase of donors who are ready, if necessary, to make some sacrifice to aid us. We cannot meet the calls that come to us for various kinds of work and for publications without more money.

Checks may be sent either to the Treasurer or Corresponding Secretary. Unsolicited donations will be especially helpful.

Contributions may be sent to Mr. William G. Benedict, Treasurer, 610 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, or directly to the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. Samuel W. Dike, LL.D., 113 Hancock Street, Auburndale, Mass.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

National League for the Protection of the Family.

ARTICLE I. This Association shall be called the NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE FAMILY.

ART. II. Its object shall be, through the improvement of public sentiment and legislation, to protect the institution of the Family, especially as affected by existing evils relating to Marriage and Divorce, and to secure its proper efficiency in individual and social life. It may co-operate with auxiliary or other bodies having similar aims in such ways as may be deemed expedient.

ART. III. It shall consist of the following persons, having power to fill vacancies and to add to their number. . . .

ART. IV. The officers of this Society shall be a President, not more than five Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of not more than twelve persons, of which committee the Corresponding Secretary shall be a member, and of which not less than three shall constitute a quorum, having the duties indicated in their several offices, to be elected at the Annual Meeting, and to hold office until their successors are appointed.

ART. V. The LEAGUE shall hold its Annual Meeting on the third Wednesday in January, unless otherwise directed by the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and at such hour and place as shall be indicated in the call of the Committee.

ART. VI. Amendments of this Constitution, of which due notice shall have been given in the call of any Annual Meeting, may be adopted at such meeting by the vote of two-thirds of the members present.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS concerning the work of the LEAGUE and its general business should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. SAMUEL W. DIKE, LL.D., Auburndale, Mass.

CONTRIBUTIONS should be sent to the Treasurer, Mr. WILLIAM G. BENEDICT, 610 Atlantic Ave., Boston.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I hereby give and bequeath to the NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE FAMILY, a corporation created by the Laws of the State of Connecticut, or its successor, or assigns, the sum of.....dollars, the principal [or income, as may be desired] of which is to be used for the purposes for which said Corporation was chartered.